The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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A decent boldness ever meets with friends.—Homer.

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TRADE UNIONISTS SHOULD BE STERN REALISTS

Workers should hold to principle while creating an anti-labor injunction sentiment in this campaign.

If the next Congress is to correct this evil a sound public opinion must be developed and progressive lawmakers elected.

Injunction courts now attempt to dilute injustice by assuring their victims that trade unionism is both lawful and necessary.

Wage workers are not interested in honeyed words that are intended to detraction attention from wrong.

The injunction judge approves trade unionism—except where it is effective; except where it accomplishes purposes intended. When trade unionism interferes with profits or threatens prospective income, the injunction judge reveals his true self.

Patronage and good will are now classed as property and any interference with same is held unlawful.

These were formerly considered an individual matter, inherent in each person. Now we are told that a business man has a sort of first mortgage on his patrons—whenever workers are involved.

To break a strike—to check interference with the employer's income—the injunction judge labels such strike a "conspiracy." This paves the way for equity process.

The employer's loss is incidental to the worker's exercise of rights, but this is ignored by the injunction judge.

Workers are then pictured as foes of good order, while trade unionism—as an abstract, far-away principle—is praised.

The new policy of courts is shown in the so-called Granite City decision by the United States Supreme Court.

In that case Chief Justice Taft ruled that control of picketing is within the province of the court. He referred to the term "picketing" as "sinister"—but he was enthusiastic in his praise of trade unionism.

No thinking worker will be attracted by this empty laudation and overlook the joker that orders him off the streets.

Workers should keep in mind that the one purpose of the labor injunction is to protect the employer. An act by workers that is legal when no strike exists can be enjoined in strike times if it reduces the employer's sales or threatens prospective income.

The consideration of human rights has no place in an equity court.

The injunction court decides what is lawful whenever the employer charges that his employes are making their strike effective—that they are lessening his income; injuring his "property."

That is the sole issue. The injunction judge is not interested in the strikers' legal rights.

The injunction judge is one-man government. He rules by conscience and replaces government by law, where the rights of every individual are defined and protected.

Workers should be stern realists in their fight against the labor injunction.

They know their unions are both legal and necessary. They should not be trapped by the ancient trick of "red herring" compliments that are intended to hide vicious jokers.

THOUSANDS KILLED IN INDUSTRY; SHOPS MORE DEADLY THAN WAR

New York, Oct. 13.—Ninety-eight per cent of this country's industrial accidents are preventable, asserted H. W. Heinrich of the Travelers' Insurance Company before a group of industrial engineers and business executives at the annual conference of the National Safety Council.

Enforcement of proper safety rules can prevent 85 per cent of these accidents and 10 per cent result from improper physical conditions in plants, said the speaker. Unpreventable accidents, he said, constitute only 2 per cent of the total number.

"In addition to humanitarian reasons for safety work which should be all sufficient to compel us to eliminate preventable accidents, we know that accidents cost industry approximately $2,000,000,000 annually," declared Mr. Heinrich. He said the frequency and the cost of accidents in industry can be reduced 50 per cent in a short time, chiefly through revision of present accident prevention practices.

Harold A. Ley, president Life Extension Institute, declared that a study made by the Institute indicated that 42,000,000 gainfully employed lose 350,000,000 days from illness disabilities and non-occupational accidents annually.

"There is seven to nine times as much time lost through sickness as through accidents," said Mr. Ley. The annual economic loss in this country from preventable diseases and death is more than $3,000,000,000 and $1,800,000,000 of this loss is among the gainfully employed.

"At least one-half of this death loss and disability rate is preventable and postponable by proper medical supervision, periodic examination, health education and community hygiene. In other words, approximately $1,000,000,000 could be saved in industry every year by improving the health of the working man."

VOLUNTARY CONTRACT IS UPHELD BY COURT

Pottsville, Pa., Oct. 13.—In a decision against a local union of miners in McAdoo, this county, Judge R. H. Kock of the Schuylkill county court, affirmed numerous decisions that when a group of men voluntarily join an organization they must abide by laws they pledge to observe or suffer the consequences.

The decision was made in the case of Miners' Union No. 5516, whose charter was revoked by President Lewis of the United Mine Workers because of a failure to observe the union laws, including failure to pay assessments.

The objectors claimed the union had no right to collect assessments, but Judge Kock ruled that this is the "very life blood" of the international.

The objectors should have recourse to the remedies provided in the United Mine Workers' constitution, said the court.

UNCLE SAM REJECTS FAKE OPIUM CONTEST

Washington, Oct. 13.—This government is weary of jockeying tactics of world powers to control opium and refuses to be represented on the opium permanent central board called for under the Geneva convention.

Secretary of State Kellogg made this announcement in a diplomatic note to the Secretary General of the League of Nations. Secretary Kellogg stated that the Geneva convention tends to destroy the unity of purpose accomplished by The Hague convention. The United States, however, will be glad to furnish information to the permanent control board.

The dissatisfaction felt by the United States toward the Geneva convention has been unchanged since the American delegates to the convention framing it walked out and declined to have anything further to do with the matter. The American delegates included Congressman Porter, chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, and Surgeon General Rupert Blue.

The Americans refused to be a party to the underhanded diplomacy of world powers that profess an abhorrence of the opium traffic while they exploit the misery of human beings.

FEDERAL ARMY URGED AS FOOD DISTRIBUTOR

Washington, Oct. 13.—A coalition of Porto Rican citizens, representing all political parties in the island, ask President Coolidge to have the United States Army distribute Red Cross contributions to the island's hurricane victims.

The communication was presented to the President by Santiago Iglesias, secretary Pan-American Federation of Labor.

The Red Cross, following its usual custom, turns contributions over to municipal authorities of the various cities and towns, but it has been found that in some cases distribution is based on political viewpoints.

The President is urged to favor a reconstruction program that will aid Porto Rican agriculture and home building. It is also suggested that the United States law be amended so that Federal Credit will banks can aid small Porto Rican land owners.

WHO IS BACKING BAKER?

Des Moines, Iowa, Oct. 13.—Organized labor is asking who is behind the Presidential appointment of Gentry Baker of Davenport as a member of the emergency mediation board that will report to the President on the wage dispute between Western railroads and their conductor and trainmen employes.

Mr. Baker is chairman of the State Board of Education. He is hostile to the building crafts locked out in Iowa City when they refused to accept non-union conditions in the State University building projects.

MAN'S GREATEST FOES

Indolence and Deference are man's greatest foes.

By Indolence is meant man's disposition to let some one else do for him what he should do for himself.

This inaction is more pronounced when men are called upon to think.

Nothing is more troublesome to the average man. He is pleased to be saved this effort. He accepts second-hand opinions because this is easier than to form independent judgments.

The Indolent man is mentally lazy. He yields to a strong-willed man.

By Deference is meant man's willingness to accept the views of those whom he secretly considers his "superiors."

Men may be educated, but if they lack will power they are found in the ranks of Indolence and Deference. As a social force they are nil. They are only noticed by vote hunters and the census taker.

FAVOR CHINESE UNION

Chinese sailors employed by the Dollar Steamship Company, flying the American flag, have been arrested in New York for smuggling opium. The management says it is "absurd" to claim that the Chinese are paid low wages.

"The Chinese workers have a working union and receive regular wages," it is stated.

The Dollar line will recognize a Chinese union, but not an American union, while it deplores the failure of the American boy to go to sea.

Organized seamen have repeatedly shown that the Chinese will work for nothing. Employment on American ships gives them an opportunity to smuggle opium and fellow Chinese. Officers of the company profess a blissful ignorance of this practice, but they can "spot" a union white sailor within a mile of their docks.

The Dollar line operates the President Harding, a round-the-world cruising vessel, whose passengers place their lives in the hands of smuggling Orientals.

DISPLACED WORKERS AT LOW-WAGE LABOR

Washington, Oct. 13.—Workers displaced by machinery are selling life insurance, teaching school, attending to electric refrigerators and oil heaters and driving and ministering to automobiles, said Dr. Julius Klein, of the Department of Commerce, in a radio talk.

In explaining how the machine has swept workers into the streets, Dr. Klein said an automatic machine just introduced fills one great factory building and takes in strips of steel at one end and turns out enameled and finished automobile frames at the other. Four-fifths of the men formerly employed are displaced.

"Productivity per man in the automobile industry increased 172 per cent in 10 years," said Dr. Klein.

"Rubber manufacturing has increased 83 per cent and cement making 61 per cent.

"Our factories have decreased their employes by more than 900,000 since 1920; efficiency methods in railroads have released 240,000 men in the same time."

Dr. Klein indicated that non-productive activities would take up the slack. Most of these, as in radio, low wages are the rule.

UNIONS TO BE PROBED BY STAR CHAMBER PLAN

New York, Oct. 13.—An "open" shop session will be held under the auspices of the National Association of Manufacturers.

At this time, it is stated, it will be revealed "how 'open' shop opponents work, how they conspire, how they misrepresent."

To be certain that the speakers will not be contradicted, admittance is limited to members of the association and invited guests.

In this atmosphere all the "facts" about the unions will be presented.

LAUNDRY WORKERS GAIN

Tacoma, Wash., Oct. 13.—Organized laundry workers are securing signatures to a new contract which calls for work betterments.

OLD-WORLD DIPLOMACY DECEITFUL AS OF YORE

Washington, Oct. 13.—"European diplomacy is just as deceitful today as it was in 1913, before the outbreak of the World War," said Congressman Britten of Illinois, who has just returned from Europe.

Mr. Britten said that "Europe generally" has not the slightest confidence that anything worth while will result from the preparatory disarmament conference, held under the League of Nations.

The purpose of the conference is to agree on a program that will be acceptable to the world powers when they assemble in a disarmament conference that is planned for next spring.

In support of his pessimism, the Illinois lawmaker pointed to the recent secret naval treaty between England and France that has been repudiated by Secretary of State Kellogg.

This treaty opposes battle cruisers over 10,000 tons and submarines capable of long cruising.

England does not need large cruisers because of her many coaling stations throughout the world, and France does not need long-cruising subs because her interests are around the Mediterranean Sea.

The United States needs larger cruisers and subs because she has few fueling stations throughout the world.

FAMED FEDERAL JURIST MAKES NEW RECORD

Washington, Oct. 13.— Associate Justice Holmes of the United States Supreme Court has written more dissenting opinions than any other sat on that bench. On October 5 he reached the age of 87 years 6 months and 26 days. The previous record was held by Chief Justice Taney, who died in 1864 at the age of 87 years 6 months and 25 days.

Justice Taney handed down the historic Dred Scott decision in 1857 which held that the Constitution protects property and that slaves are property. The court declared that as Dred Scott was a slave he had no standing in a Federal court. The decision was a factor in causing the war between the States.

Justice Holmes is noted for his independent thought. He has a record of dissenting opinions. He is the outspoken champion of constitutional guarantees affecting the rights of citizens. He stands for liberty in the freedom of speech and assembly and the protection of the home against unlawful search and seizure. His decisions are terse. They are the shortest of any handed down by members of this court, and are opposite to his early environment in the aristocratic section of Boston.

Supreme Court decisions that ignore fundamental guarantees invariably include this notation: "Mr. Justice Holmes dissents."

NEW BEDFORD UNIONS END TEXTILE STRIKE

New Bedford, Mass., Oct. 13.—Textile workers accepted a 5 per cent reduction instead of the 10 per cent originally demanded by the employers. The strikers rejected this compromise a few weeks ago, but the new offer included additional details. The strike has been on since last April and involved 26,000 workers.

C. W. BARRON IS DEAD: ECONOMIST HAD VISION

New York, Oct. 13.—Clarence W. Barron, economist and founder of financial journalism in this country, died in a Battle Creek sanitarium after a short illness.

He published financial journals and bureaus in this city and in Boston and was noted for his frank discussion of economic questions. He was a power in financial circles and was one of the few in that group who publicly advocated shorter hours.

Last June, in a striking editorial, Mr. Barron declared that "with increasing national prosperity, increasing production and increasing consumption, there is danger of increasing unemployment.

"This is the problem and the danger of city and country, of farm and factory," he said.

"The trouble at the base of the western farm and the New England factory is overproduction, due to increasing and improved machinery.

"More than 90 per cent of what labor produces is for consumers. Labor agitation has shortened the hours of labor and increased the opportunity for consumption. Why should not capital now take a hand and reduce the work day by shutting off the half Saturday, giving broader opportunity for consumption and broadening the base of employment?

"The half day's labor on Saturday spoils the day for production and consumption. It is uneconomical from both points of view."

POLITICAL ECONOMY NOT "DREARY SCIENCE"

Lakeland, Fla., Oct. 13.—The world rejects Carlyle's definition of political economy, said Secretary of Labor Davis, in speaking at the dedication of Brotherhood of Carpenters' Home here.

"Somebody gave Carlyle a volume dealing with political economy and that grim philosopher called it a 'dreary science,'" said Secretary Davis.

"Carlyle was right at the time. It was a dreary science in the days when men attempted to prove that workers could never earn more than a mere subsistence wage. Those were the bad days of political economy. But we know those ancient notions were nonsense.

"A worker can earn not only a subsistence wage, but a saving wage and an educational wage."

AUTO POISONING DEADLY

Washington, Oct. 13.—Dr. William C. Fowler, District of Columbia health officer, warns auto owners against deadly monoxide poisoning.

"In a very few minutes the air of a small garage can be poisoned with carbon monoxide to a dangerous degree by the exhaust fumes from an automobile, even when the engine is operated at a moderate speed," said Dr. Fowler. "All repair or adjustments upon an automobile should be made either in the open air or in a garage with all doors and windows open."

BYRD'S SOUTH POLE EXPEDITION WILL BE MANNED BY UNIONISTS

From the Seamen's Journal

The steamship City of New York was selected for the South Pole expedition, under command of Richard Byrd, because she is an unusually well-built craft. Built in Norway, nearly 40 years ago, she was recently refitted at New York, and represents perfection for her task.

The crew selected by Commander Byrd was equally well chosen. Realizing that the best seamen in the world are to be found in the Seamen's Union, Commander Byrd selected seven members of his small crew from the International Seamen's Union of America.

The ranking trade unionist of the expedition is J. Jacobsen, the sailmaker, who pleads to being 60 years of age. Jacobsen served 25 years in the United States Navy and was with the Baldwin-Zigler North Pole expedition in 1901 and has been 15 years in the American merchant marine.

Carpenter C. F. Gould, also a member of the Seamen's Union, has been on previous expeditions and has served several years in the American merchant marine and is a member of the American Legion.

Boatswain Strom, a loyal union member, has served several years in the Navy. He has been master of his own sailing vessel and sailed on the American coast as an able-bodied seaman in his younger days.

The three members of the steward's department are proud of their union membership. They also have seen Arctic service and are well qualified for their work. The lowest wage rate paid on Commander Byrd's ship is $90 a month.

CANADIANS ALLOWED FREE ENTRY FOR WORK

Washington, Oct. 13.—The Supreme Court refused to pass on the right of British subjects residing in Canada and working in the United States to cross the border without immigration papers.

The government took the position that a Canadian citizen, residing in Canada, but who crosses the boundary daily to work in the United States, should present an immigration visa to enter this country. The lower Federal courts held that the Jay treaty of 1794 gave them free passage over the border and that under the law they were non-immigrants, who are aliens visiting the United States temporarily for business and are not required to have immigration visas.

The court's sustaining of Canadians crossing the border for daily employment was contested in Detroit, Buffalo and other northern border cities.

HIGH COURT UPHOLDS WIRE TAPPING RULE

Washington, Oct. 13.—The United States Supreme Court refused to review its five-to-four decision of last term that evidence obtained by wire tapping could be used in criminal prosecutions.

The minority decision held that the government has no right to commit an illegal act to secure a conviction. The case came up on the conviction of Seattle men for violating the Federal prohibition law.

BLACK FLAG OF PARTISANSHIP FOREIGN TO AMERICAN POLICY

St. Paul, Oct. 13.—"People are losing confidence in the good faith of political parties and are beginning to rely on their own judgment as to how the government can be controlled to establish justice by force of public opinion expressed at the ballot box," said Senator Shipstead in a radio address in this city.

"This is going to the original idea of the American system of government that every man should be a sovereign and do his own thinking instead of abdicating his throne of sovereignty to that of the political bosses who control political parties," said Mr. Shipstead.

"We have suffered from the baneful influence of political parties that George Washington warned the American people of in his farewell address. We have paid a terrible price by having political parties pay for campaign contributions with special privilege legislation.

Senator Shipstead recalled a statement by Senator Norris, in his Labor Day address at Duluth that a political partisan "is a greater menace to the American system of government and our national life than all the bootleggers and divekeepers in the country."

"A great deal has been said about the heroes who have rendered patriotic service in time of war," concluded Senator Shipstead. "Little is said about the thin line of heroes valiently fighting to preserve the government of the United States in time of peace. I call you to service not under the black flag of political partisanship, but under the flag of the Constitution of the United States which recognizes no political party."

Excess Profits Loaned To Wall Street That Belong To Low-Wage Employes

New York, Oct. 13.—The strong boxes of industrial magnates are bulging with excess profits which should be diffused throughout the country in the form of wages.

These profits are so tremendous that employers are taking advantage of high rates for call money in Wall Street and are loaning their idle funds to stock gamblers who are pushing the market to alarming heights.

It is estimated that more than $2,000,000,000 has been taken out of corporation treasuries and loaned to market riggers who are paying from 6 to 10 per cent. The government can control bank loans, but there is no check on the new flood of money that is known as "bootleg loans."

Bankers and financiers are alarmed at the situation and so Congress is hinted, as the "bootleggers" can withdraw their money at any time. In that event the banks would find it impossible to fill such a yawning hole and a nation-wide crash might result.

The bankers have lost all control of the money market, it is stated, and the industrial kings are using their swollen profits in the same autocratic manner as they handle human beings whom they exploit in factory, shop and mine.

The $2,000,000,000 of "bootleg loans" is proof of the immense profits of these corporations that refuse to pay living wages.

BRITISH TORYISM CHALLENGED LABOR PRESENTS LONG PLANK

Washington, Oct. 13.—The British Labor Party conference at Birmingham adopted a platform containing 65 planks with which it will go before the people to secure control of the 400 seats in the House of Commons, according to London cables.

If the party succeeds the king will call on Ramsey MacDonald, leader of the party, "to form a government." This means a selection of various heads of departments, somewhat similar to the President's cabinet in the United States.

The Labor Party platform includes nationalization of coal, transport, power and mines, larger old-age pensions, governmental banking control and repeal of the trades dispute and the eight-hour mines acts.

The trades disputes act was recently jammed through the House of Commons by the Conservative Party. Long standing rights of organized labor are annulled. The eight-hour mines act was passed two years ago at the request of coal owners. It added an additional hour on the miners' work day. This is exclusive of the time it takes the miner to reach the face of the coal after he descends the shaft.

In England a candidate for the House of Commons can select his constituency. Under this system an active worker who lives in a conservative district can be nominated in an industrial area where his success is assured.

The general election will be held next year, although the leader of the government (now Premier Baldwin, Conservative) may dissolve the House of Commons any time he elects and appeal to the people. This is the practice when the government is defeated in the House of Commons on an important question. If the premier believes the people will support him, he "appeals to the country" to elect a House that will vote for his project.

The Labor Party controlled the government in 1924. The party was shattered by the publication of a "very secret" letter to Ramsey MacDonald from Zinovieff of the Third Communist Internationale at Moscow. The Conservatives swept the nation with this "proof" that the workers were connected with the Communists. The workers made a denial, and insisted that the letter was a forgery, but it served its purpose. Later the Conservatives were forced to acknowledged the forgery by its refusal to include the letter in the "Blue Book," the government's official record.

OLD WORLD COPIES MASS OUTPUT PLAN

Memphis, Tenn., Oct. 13.—"Foreign nations are copying our mass production system and we must extend our home markets by greater purchasing power of workers through high wages," said Congressman Begg of Ohio in a speech before the local Chamber of Commerce. The speaker called on business men to support the high wage theory.

"We have mastered mass production," he said. "Our production has increased beyond the wildest dreams of 10 years ago. We now have machines that do the work 10 men formerly did. We produce at least 25 per cent more than we can consume.

"Because of mass production we are able to pay good wages and still keep our markets in competition with foreign goods made with cheap labor. But other nations are not idle. They are learning our secret of mass production."

PAROLE PLAN WINS

New York, Oct. 13.—The parole system succeeds in a "goodly percentage" of the 1,400 prisoners now come under the jurisdiction of the Parole Commission of this city.

AUTOCRACY IS SAME UNDER EVERY FORM

Paris, Oct. 13.—French jurists who have examined the structure and methods of Bolshevism and Fascism are agreed that both systems are identical.

The Fascists and Communists began from opposite directions but the jurists show they have arrived at the same point—dictatorship over the individual.

The fact that the Russian dictators are proletarian and the Italian dictatorship is the other extreme does not interest the investigators. The outstanding issue, the jurists point out, is that individual liberty is destroyed; that each country has torn loose from the centuries' old struggle for democracy and for assurance that the life, liberty and property of each individual is assured.

In Russia all power is centered in the executive group of a party that is controlled at the moment by Stalin, as it was by Trotsky. Italy is controlled by the Grand Council of the Fascist Party. Both deny existence to other political parties, while free press and speech are gagged.

GASOLINE BUYERS "GYPPED"

Washington, Oct. 13.—The annual loss to American motorists at the hands of "gyp" operators of gasoline pumps is estimated at $20,000,000 by the American Automobile Association.

One-sixth of the 2,000,000,000 gallons sold are short sales, it is claimed.

BUSINESS MEN IGNORE "COMMUNITY SPIRIT"

La Salle, Ill., Oct. 13.—Business men in this section professed a "community spirit" when they urged striking miners to forego their Jacksonville-agreement demand.

Since the miners accepted lower rates the business men ignore their professions while coal owners are attempting to operate non-union labor, said President Fishwick of the Illinois District Miners in a speech in this city.

The business men assured the unionists that if they accepted a $6 rate "we can fix things up." They were told that this was impossible unless the policy of the miners was changed. "But it changed now," said President Fishwick, "and I am wondering why we don't have a visit from those men who visited me in the name of community spirit." The unionist said that organized miners in this field want peace and are willing to negotiate, but if the coal owners favor industrial war "there is nothing for us to do but to keep on fighting."

UNION RADIO STATION CONSPIRACY VICTIM?

Chicago, Oct. 13.—A plot to silence radio-casting station WCFL of this city is declared by Joseph N. Nockels, secretary of the Chicago Federation of Labor. The station is the only union-owned broadcasting station in this country. Mr. Nockels is manager of the station. He will appear before the Federal Radio Commission at Washington against the commission's order diminishing the power of WCFL and reallocating its wave length.

"We will put the facts in the records. We will spare no one whom we feel is responsible for the attempt to give the air to a few large interests," said Mr. Nockels. The unionist said if necessary the battle would be carried to the floor of Congress.

ANTI-UNION CONCERN CONCEALS LOW WAGES

Chicago, Oct. 13.—"I can't speak of wages, but our employes are well satisfied," James G. Condon assured the Illinois Commerce Commission in asking that the Chicago Motor Coach Company be permitted to operate on additional streets.

Mr. Gordon represents the company, which does not permit employes to organize.